

The Connecticut  
Department  
of Correction



Remember Our Troops

# P.R.I.D.E.

Our motto: Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Dignity, Excellence

## AT WORK



## DOC Helps Save Our Neighborhoods

An unprecedented effort by local, state and federal law enforcement, to remove violent felons from the streets of Connecticut's capitol city, was recently carried out through the able assistance of the Connecticut Department of Correction. Among

the hundreds of law enforcement officers, who gathered in Hartford at four a.m. to begin the round up dubbed Save Our Neighborhood, were more than 20 DOC staff.



Continued on Page 3, *SON*

## From the Commissioner

The opening line of the Department of Correction Mission Statement makes clear that protecting the public is the first and foremost duty on a daily basis for every member of our agency. Our dedication and commitment to keeping the citizens of the State of Connecticut safe is unequalled. But I would like to use this opportunity to ask that you also remember and act upon our other duty to the public, which likewise is required of everyone within our Department from the Commissioner on down. As state employees we all must remember that we serve the public. They pay taxes to support our salaries. As a result we have an obligation to be nothing less than kind, courteous, prompt, helpful and professional in every dealing that we have with any member of the public. Administrative Directive 1.8, Departmental Public Relations makes clear what is expected of us.



Continued on page 2, *Commissioner*

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### Our Mission

The Department of Correction shall protect the public, protect staff, and provide safe, secure and humane supervision of offenders with opportunities that support successful community reintegration

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About and for  
correctional  
professionals

November 9 -  
22, 2003

# Garner Road Race

The annual "Autumn on the Sound 5K Road Race" was held on October 12, 2003 in West Haven to benefit the Connecticut Special Olympics. The race, in its second year, was primarily sponsored by Garner Correctional Institution. Other sponsors included Krispy Kreme Donuts, Entenmanns, IGA Supermarket, and Tartaglia's Restaurant of Derby.

Despite the rain and wind, 127 runners completed the course including three Department of Correction Employees. Correction Officer Ismael Herrera of the Bridgeport Correctional Institution won an award for first Correctional Employee and also placed first in his age division.

Counselor Supervisors Kim Jones and Stacey Marmora coordinated the event with the help of Warden Giovanni Gomez, Major John Lahda, Lieutenant Lance Morris and Correctional Counselor Denise Dillworth. The planning committee would like to thank everyone who participated and contributed in making this race a success.



## Commissioner, Cont'd

"Staff shall attempt to impart information, answer a question or resolve a problem...that a member of the general public may have. If unable to assist the person, the staff member shall attempt to contact a supervisor or other staff member who may be able to help." This applies not only to phone conversations with the public but also in one on one situations that may occur within our facilities. Especially in our lobby and visiting areas, the public's exposure to our agency should be nothing but positive, pleasant and polite. I expect that our high level of professionalism will be clearly evident during your interaction with each individual, and will not falter even if the other person's demeanor leaves something to be desired. For many of those we come in contact with, having a loved one incarcerated and coming to visit them in a correctional facility is a difficult and at times a heart wrenching experience. We should not add to that discomfort, but should instead do all we can to make the situation as hassle free as possible. I would remind you too that A.D 1.8 also requires that, "Each correctional unit shall ensure that there is always someone available during the unit's business hours to answer the primary incoming telephone line". I know that given staffing constraints, this at times can be difficult to achieve. But please endeavor to ensure that a call from public or from fellow staff gets a prompt response. As I tour our facilities across the state, they are clean, well maintained and orderly and likely are not what many may expect a correctional facility to be like. The staff I have come in contact with have been unfailingly polite, respectful and helpful. But for a member of the public, one bad experience, a rude answer, a long wait for assistance only reinforces the misconceptions that some may hold. Please treat the public as you would want your family treated. Treat them with PRIDE.

## Pride. AT Work

for  
November 9 - 22,  
2003

Distributed  
bi-weekly to 7,000  
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06109

John G. Rowland,  
Governor

Theresa C. Lantz,  
Commissioner

Web address:  
[www.doc.state.ct.us](http://www.doc.state.ct.us)

Public Information  
Office telephone:  
860.692.7780  
fax:  
860.692.7783

Submit items by  
Wednesday  
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month in advance  
for calendar events.

# SON, Cont'd

"We are dedicated to the safety of our citizens and our communities and we will supply whatever assistance is needed to our fellow law enforcement agencies in support of important initiatives such as this," said Commissioner Theresa Lantz. The dedicated men and women of the DOC oversaw the transportation of the surprised offenders who were first taken to a central booking area and then before a judge for arraignment. Ten transport vehicles and two buses from the Central Transportation Unit were utilized in the operation. The safety of the round up was enhanced as the DOC personnel performed thorough searches of those arrested. Governor John Rowland, Public Safety Commissioner Arthur Spada and Chief State's Attorney Christopher Morano all praised DOC's assistance during a news conference on the round up. Most of those who were held on bond were transported to the MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution which had made preparations in advance for the operation. The goal of Operation Save Our Neighborhood was to improve the quality of life for the people of the city of Hartford.

## Food Service Ceremony

The Second Annual Food Services Recognition Ceremony was held on October 8, 2003 at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development.

Director Robert Frank, in charge of Food Services for the past two years, is extremely proud of all his staff and the job well done by his remarkable group of employees.

Director Frank began holding the recognition ceremony last year as a way of letting his staff know that they are deeply appreciated. During the ceremony he made it clear that if it were possible an award should go to all Food Services personnel for the excellent job they do each and every day in our correctional facilities. Here are the 2003 award recipients:

.....

### Food Service Lead of the Year

Mark Chamberlain

### Managers Award

CFSM Michael Gaughran

### VIP Award

FAM Michelle Clayton

### Appreciation Award

Maria Guglielmi

.....



(L-R) CFSSII James Martin accepted the award on behalf of CFSSIII Chamberlain from Director Frank

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## From the Front Lines



Good Morning from Qatar. You probably have heard of everyone taking leave or a pass for some Rest and Relaxation. It's my turn. On the 2nd of November I flew from Baghdad Airport to Qatar(south of Kuwait). We were greeted by American soldiers who treated us like heros. We were given the opportunity to go on a safari, shopping and waterskiing trips. Our names were put into a drawing and of course I was one of five and the only female to get to go on the shopping trip. They have a day spa that includes pedicures, manicures, and a 30 minute massage. One thing that we are allowed to do here is drink but our limit is 3 beers per day. We're here until the 6th of November and it will be hard for us to go back to the war of uncertainty of being blown-up by car bombs, being shot at, or having grenades repelled at us. Hope all our family and co-workers are doing well back in the states. Thank you for your support and god bless you all.

Officer Shirley Lambert, Northern CI



# Former Football Hero Visits Cheshire

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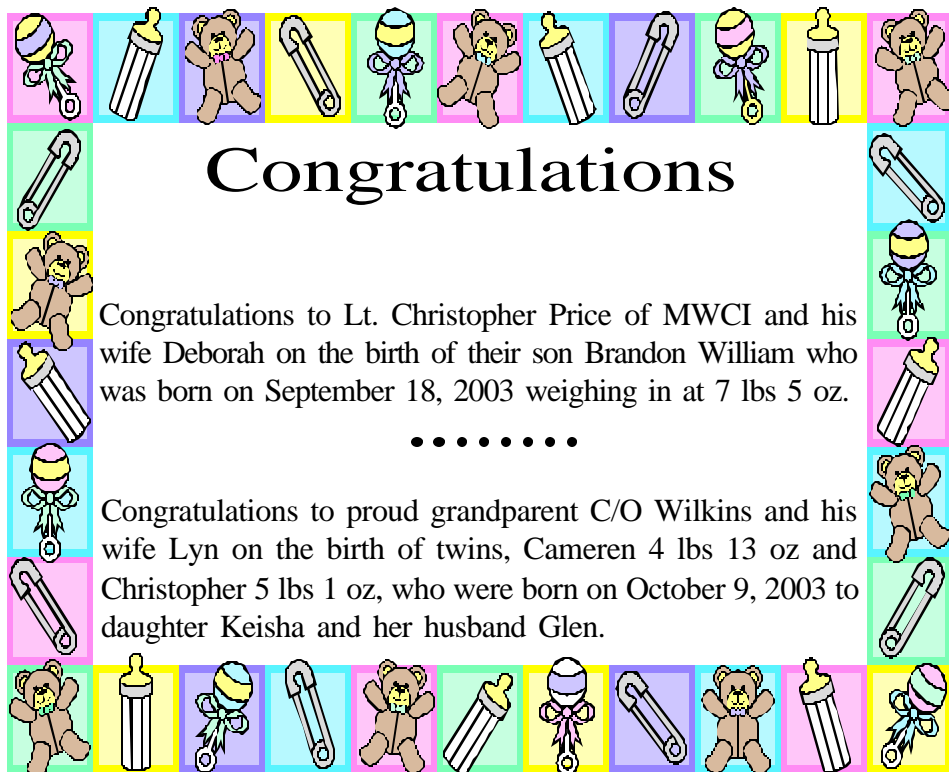
Scoring points on the gridiron was never a problem for Hall of Fame running back Jim Brown, and scoring points with young inmates appears to be just as effortless.

On a crisp, bright Halloween morning, the former Cleveland Brown brought his message of accountability and personal responsibility to about one-hundred and fifty inmates assembled in the gymnasium at the Webster CI. Brown appeared as a guest of the New Haven NAACP in affiliation with a chapter within the institution.

Following his stellar football career, Brown took up acting appearing in more than thirty movies including "The Dirty Dozen" and more recently "Mars Attacks." His latest endeavor involves educating young people in identifying lifestyles and habits that result in incarceration or worse. An anti-gang message dominates the program which he has implemented throughout the country and now brings to Connecticut. The "Amer-I-Can" program stresses self-determination and sends the message that "Success is there for those who want it, plan for it and take action to achieve it."

Brown acknowledged the efforts of Warden James Dzurenda and other staff in their progressive approach to reintegration. He said that he was surprised and pleased at the atmosphere of a facility where inmates are encouraged and allowed to participate in this type of forum. Drawing upon his own experience of incarceration, he connected what may be done "inside" to lay the groundwork for a productive life after prison.

"Don't be like Mike," Brown said, borrowing from popular advertising slogan. "Michael Jordan is a freak of nature, there is only one Michael. You're not going to be like Mike". He said that young people should spend more time concentrating on their education or learning a skill instead of dreaming about becoming the next athletic superstar.



Congratulations to Lt. Christopher Price of MWCI and his wife Deborah on the birth of their son Brandon William who was born on September 18, 2003 weighing in at 7 lbs 5 oz.

.....

Congratulations to proud grandparent C/O Wilkins and his wife Lyn on the birth of twins, Cameren 4 lbs 13 oz and Christopher 5 lbs 1 oz, who were born on October 9, 2003 to daughter Keisha and her husband Glen.

The conclusion of his thirty-minute talk was met with a thunderous ovation from all in attendance. No scoreboard flashed his name, no trophy was presented, but on this day seeds were planted for future success.

**Supervised  
Population  
on November 19**

**2 0 8 0 6**

On Nov. 19, 2002 the population  
was 21,200.

# New Cheshire Control Center

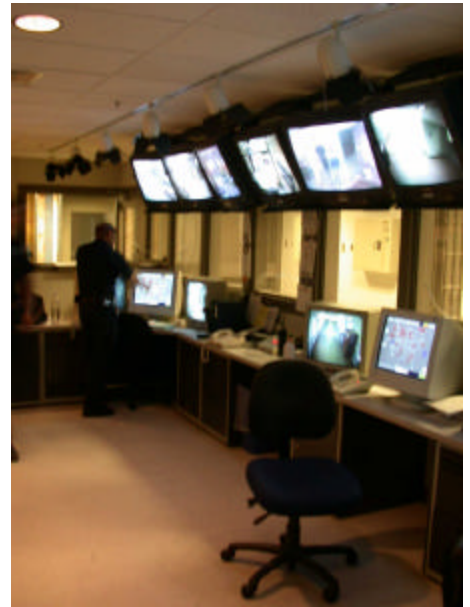
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The state's oldest active facility now has the state's newest Control Center. Construction began in November of 2002 and was completed this September at a cost of \$1, 250,000. Visitors will still turn left after entering the facility, but those wishing to gain access to the interior of the level four unit must now pass through a security trap monitored by staff.

Several staff members are posted in the Control Center monitoring the systems for video surveillance, security enhancement and improved communications. The Control Center was just part of an interior project that included an infirmary, stair towers, elevator, and fire system.

Although security may not be enhanced by the bathroom renovations, they may just be the most appreciated.



## DOC Volunteer Praised at FaithWorks Conference

As Governor John Rowland, state commissioners and hundreds of religious leaders set a course for more productive relations between government and faith based organizations, Department of Correction Commissioner Theresa Lantz singled out an agency volunteer as an example of how that partnership has long been successful within the DOC. The two day gathering was entitled FaithWorks 2003, transforming communities through engaged faith. In the audience was Rhina Carmona, who has spent nearly 14-years in Connecticut's prisons ministering to the offender population. During her presentation, Commissioner Lantz identified Carmona to those in attendance and

characterized her as a, "powerful faith based organization of one." Carmona's correctional work earned her the 2002 Woman of the Year Award from the Connecticut Post. Although she looks years younger, Carmona at age 70, still makes weekly visits Garner Correctional Institution. Her work and the award have also earned praise from inmate families who have written to thank her for her commitment and dedication. The FaithWorks Conference marked the signing by Governor Rowland of an executive order which approves the formation of a council to explore the development and enhancement of all state government collaborative efforts with faith based organizations for the provision of social services.

Commissioner Lantz cited our agency's long standing reliance upon faith based volunteers and stated that our new emphasis on improving the reintegration of offenders will also rely in part on faith based

Continued on Page 7, *FaithWorks*



# Around the cell block



Nevada- According to the corrections Director, inmates are becoming more dangerous and the number of incarcerated juveniles and elderly is growing.



Alabama- Visitors are now limited to \$30 for vending machine snacks and inmates may no longer take the food back to their cells.



Kansas- A new law requires the diversion of some first time drug offenders to treatment rather than prison.



California- The state's budget crisis will increase by \$544-million because of cost overruns in the prison system.

Lehman, Edward RN/CHN	McWCI
Lemoine, Thomas Lt	McWCI
Livingston, Samara C/O	NHCC
Lynch, Terry Lt	NHCC
Mallison, Vanessa Lt	NHCC
Martinez, Angel Capt	NHCC
Mayo, Karen Sec II	WCB
McClendon, Carolyn CCT	WCB
Milligan, Michelle CC	WCB
O'Gorman, Frank CC	McWCI
O'Neill, Scott CC	WCB
Orr, Robert C/O	McWCI
Paine, Jonathan C/O	McWCI
Pelligrino, Patrick C/O	NHCC
Pellitier, Wendy C/O	NHCC
Richards, Jeff CHN	McWCI
Scott, William CC	WCB
Staton, Vernon C/O	CRC
Suarez, Gloria CHN	McWCI
Sweat, Rocco Lt	NHCC
Swan, Hal CC	WCB
Velez, Ferdinand C/O	NHCC
Wahlberg, John CC	WCB
Woods, Frederick C/O	NHCC
Young, Deborah Clk Typ	McWCI
Zayas, Luis C/O	MWCI

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## Calendar

### December 5

Swearing -In Ceremony

The Department's Wardens and Directors will be formally sworn in by Commissioner Lantz in a ceremony to be held at the MCTSD at 2 p.m. Family is invited with refreshments to follow.

### December 12



The Hartford CC will host their Annual Holiday Gathering at Jacqueline's in Plainville beginning at 6:00p.m. A single ticket is \$40 and a pair is \$75. Meal selections include Roast Beef, Chicken Marsala or Stuffed Shrimp. Open Bar is included for the entire evening. Tickets must be purchased by December 5<sup>th</sup>. DJ David Ortiz will provide music. Tickets can be obtained by contacting any QWL member or by contacting Ms. Scarlett at 240-1883.

Continued on Page 7, *Calendar*

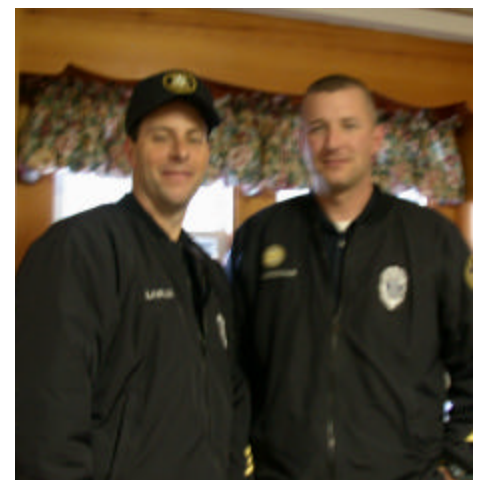
## Recent MVP recipients:

Abruzzi, David	Rec. Supv.	WCB
Andrews, Harold	CSA	WCB
Badura, Kathy	CHN	McWCI
Broome-Keel, Danette	Lt.	NHCC
Buckley, Norma	OA	WCB
Carrasquillo, Pedro	C/O	WCB
Casey, Gary	C/O	CRCI
Collazo, Oswado	C/O	WCI
Davis, Robert	C/O	NHCC
DiGiacomo, Lisa	CN	McWCI
Febles, Jose	CC	WCB
Forkey, Mary	Lt	WCB
Gibbs, Harold	C/O	WCI
Hillard, Trent	Lt	WCI
Hunter, Garry	C/O	NHCC
Immordino, Peter	Dr.	NHCC
Lapointe, James	C/O	McWCI

## Diversity Luncheon



(L-R) Doug Poger, Francine Grenier and Larry Mayer



(L-R) C/O Lawler and C/O McDonald

Celebrating the diversity of our agency through the food of the the different cultures we come from was the theme of a recent potluck luncheon held by the Community Enforcement and Central Transportation Units. From curried chicken to lasagna, the event was enjoyed by all.



# Calendar, Cont'd

## December 12



The MacDougall-Walker CI will host their Annual Holiday Party at LaNotte Restaurant which is located at 17 Thompson Road in East Windsor from 7:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. Tickets are \$25 per person and must be purchased by December 5<sup>th</sup>. The meal includes Baked Chicken, London Broil & Stuffed Sole. DJ Rodriguez will provide music. Tickets can be obtained by contacting any QWL member.

## December 17



The Cheshire CI Holiday Party will be held at the Aqua Turf in Plantsville from 6:30 - 12:00. Tickets are priced at \$46.00 includes dinner, dancing and a three hour open bar. Tickets can be purchased by calling Rec. Supervisor Floser at 250-2600 x2057 or Lt. Barnes at 250-2665.

## December 19



MCTSD will host its Annual DOC Holiday Gathering on December 19 from 2 - 8 p.m. This family oriented event includes a visit from Santa, face painting, magic, storytelling and a full buffet. You may also share in the spirit of the season by donating an unwrapped gift to help support CT's BBBS Programs.



**Employee Assistance Program**  
A Confidential Counseling Service  
**888-EAP-8900**

# FaithWorks, Cont'd

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organizations. "Linking returning offenders to these organizations will reinforce the pro-social values they have learned while incarcerated and will involve them with a network of support mechanisms in their community," said Commissioner Lantz. Even to those who had just met her, it came as no surprise that Carmona needed to rush back from the FaithWorks Conference, so that she could assist in setting up Garner CI's annual religious retreat for the inmates, which she says is, "to give them hope that we have a merciful God".

## Schuder awarded Doctorate

Correctional Counselor Jay-Todd Schuder was recently awarded his Professional Doctorate in Addictive Disorders from the Breining Institute.

Dr. Schuder, a 17 year veteran with the DOC, is currently a caseload counselor at the Hartford Correctional Center.



## Northern EOQ's

Warden Choinski and the staff at Northern C.I. are please to announce Correction Officer Ronald Young and Secretary I BethAnn Niderno have been selected by their peers as the Employees of the Quarter for the facility. Congratulations on a job well done.

